

Mineral Industry Surveys

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MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN DECEMBER 2005

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in December was 2.52 million metric tons (Mt), which was 7% lower than in the previous month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Production in 2005 was 3% higher than in 2004.

Phosphate rock sold or used in the United States in December was 2.58 Mt, an 8% decrease from that of November. Total sold or used for 2005 was 2% higher than in 2004. U.S. producer stocks of 7.2 Mt were slightly lower than in November and were 180,000 metric tons (t) higher than at the end of 2004.

Imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and data from the Moroccan producer, because Census suppressed some phosphate rock import data for

Morocco. The Moroccan producer supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported by the United States. In addition, Census trade data were not available for the current month. The USGS estimated that imports of phosphate rock have averaged about 217,000 t per month in 2005. Table 4 shows exports of phosphate rock from Morocco provided by the Moroccan phosphate rock producer. In 2005, exports to the United States increased by 5% compared with 2004.

Domestic apparent consumption for 2005 was 39.1 Mt, a 2% increase over that of 2004. Apparent consumption was based on sold or used data, plus imports minus exports.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks ²
2004:			
December	2,900	W	7,020
January-December	35,700	35,800	XX
2005:			
January	3,060	2,830	7,130
February	2,860	2,790	7,100
March	3,160	3,240	6,990
April	3,000	3,160	6,910
May	3,480	3,070	7,310
June	3,100	3,050	7,360
July	3,350	3,500	7,220
August	3,480	3,490	7,140
September	3,420	3,220	7,410
October	2,780	2,840	7,410
November	2,710	2,790	7,290
December	2,520	2,580	7,200
Total	36,900	36,500	XX

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. XX Not applicable.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value
2004:		
January-November	1,330	48,500
November	80	2,190
December	150	5,470
January-December	1,560	56,100
Total year ³	2,500	91,300
2005: ⁴		
January	140	5,160
February	143	6,190
March	48	1,300
April	183	8,440
May	227	11,000
June	184	8,420
July	103	4,840
August	66	1,810
September	158	5,520
October	159	6,290
November	195	7,200
Total	1,610	66,200

¹Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

⁴Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate publication.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2003	2004	2005
Marketable production:			
Florida and North Carolina	29.1	30.3	W
Idaho and Utah	5.0	5.4	W
Total	34.1	35.7	36.9
Sold or used by producers:			
Florida and North Carolina	30.2	30.8	W
Idaho and Utah	5.2	5.0	W
Total	35.4	35.8	36.5
Yearend stocks	7.3	7.0	7.2
Exports reported by producers	W	--	--
Average value per ton	W	--	--
Imports for consumption ^e	2.4	2.5	2.6
Average value per ton	\$35.55	\$36.50	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 2}	37.8	38.3	39.1

^eEstimated. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. -- Zero.

¹Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

²Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.

TABLE 4
MOROCCAN
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS¹
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2005

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination	Quantity
Australia	538
Austria	158
Belgium	399
Brazil	697
Bulgaria	114
Colombia	89
Croatia	276
France	336
Germany	154
Greece	74
India	1,130
Indonesia	507
Iran	179
Italy	81
Japan	113
Korea, Republic of	391
Lithuania	241
Mexico	950
New Zealand	588
Norway	40
Pakistan	261
Peru	109
Poland	801
Portugal	113
Romania	283
Russia	17
Taiwan	50
Thailand	216
Turkey	54
Spain	1,660
United States	2,630
Uruguay	13
Venezuela	134
Total	13,400

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to total shown.

Source: Office Cherifien des Phosphates - Casablanca, Morocco.